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Scientific Note

NEW SYNONYMY OF *BRUCHUS PODAGRICUS* FABRICIUS AND *BRUCHUS CROTONAE* FÄHRAEUS, WITH A LECTOTYPE DESIGNATION AND A NEW COMBINATION FOR *B. PODAGRICUS* (COLEOPTERA: BRUCHIDAE: CTENOCOLUM)

Bruchus podagricus Fabr., 1801, is a senior synonym of *Bruchus crotonae* Fähræus, 1839, NEW SYNONYMY. We recently compared the two female syntypes (Fabricius, J. C. 1801: 399. *Systema Eleutheratorum*. 1.) of *Bruchus podagricus* with homotypes (Fähræus, O. J. von. 1839:123. *In* Schoenherr, C. J., *Genera et Species Curculionidum*, 5 (1).) of *B. crotonae*. We are confident that both names refer to the same species. The specimens of *B. crotonae* that we examined were slightly smaller and darker than those of *B. podagricus*, but the external structures were almost identical. We also compared the genitalia of male specimens (not types) of *B. podagricus* with those of *B. crotonae* and the genitalia were identical. The male genitalia of most bruchid beetles have many very reliable diagnostic characters.

The female specimen of *B. podagricus* bearing the small, square, green label, the large rectangular red label with the word "TYPE" on it, and the label LECTOTYPE, *Bruchus podagricus* F., by Johnson & Nilsson, is here designated the LECTOTYPE for *B. podagricus*. Kingsolver & Whitehead (Kingsolver, J. M. & D. R. Whitehead. 1974. *Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash.*, 87: 283–312) placed *Bruchus crotonae* in their new genus *Ctenocolum*, so *B. podagricus* is now *Ctenocolum podagricus*, NEW COMBINATION. *Bruchus pictifemur* Sharp is also a junior synonym of *B. podagricus* (Kingsolver & Whitehead 1974).

Ctenocolum podagricus has a distribution from Mexico to Costa Rica and the West Indies and feeds in the seeds of *Lonchocarpus hondurensis* Bentham, *L. rugosus* Bentham, *L. nitidus* (Vogel) Bentham, *L. eriocarinalis* Micheli, *L. margaritensis* Pittier, *L. pentaphyllus* Poiret, *L. costaricensis* Donn & Smith, *L. minimiflorus* Donn & Smith, *L. parviflorus*, and *Piscidia carthagenensis* Jacquin (Kingsolver & Whitehead 1974; Janzen, D. H. 1980. *Jour. Ecol.*, 68: 929–952).

Type Depositories: *Bruchus podagricus*: Zoologisk Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark. *Bruchus crotonae*: Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet, Stockholm, Sweden. *Bruchus pictifemur*: British Museum (Natural History), London, England.

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Scientific Note

THE KOREAN WATER BEETLE GAME

Koreans seem to have a better ability to enjoy insects than do Americans. Grasshoppers and dragonflies, particularly the redpepper dragonfly (*Crocothemis servilia* Drury), whose red body resembles the redpeppers so essential to Korean cooking, are prominent and popular symbols of autumn. Koreans are fond of their country's numerous and very loud "crying" cicadas. Boiled silkmoth pupae (*Bombyx mori* L.) are a very common snackfood that is sold to strollers in Seoul's parks and entertainment districts. At some silkmoth pupae sellers, buyers enjoy determining the quantity of pupae they get for their money, by throwing a dart at a spinning wooden disk divided into sections indicating differing amounts of pupae.

Another more complex human–insect "social" interaction in Korea involves *Cybister japonicus* Sharp, a large, 35–40 mm dytiscid beetle that ranges through much of Northeast Asia (Cho, P. S. 1969. Illustrated encyclopedia of fauna and flora of Korea, 10: 184. Korean Ministry of Education, Seoul). In July, 1989, while visiting the carnival-like amusement area on top of Seoul's prestigious Lotte department store, I noticed a crowd of laughing people gathered around something on the floor. Working my way through the crowd, I found that the people were playing *mul bang gae nori*—the water beetle game.

This roulette-like game (Fig. 1) is played using an oval metal tank containing 3–4 cm of water that is partitioned along its inner edge with vertical flanges that rise a little above the water level. On the platform rim of the tank sit prizes such as candy, chewing gum, soda drinks, cigarettes, small toys and ceramic ornaments. A funnel, supported by tripod legs, sits in the center of the tank above the water.

To play the game the customer pays the proprietor 200 won (US \$0.30) and dips a spoon into the tank and under the water beetle, lifting it out of the pool. The beetle is then dropped through the funnel into the water. The disturbed beetle